

World Bank Assistance to CIL

524. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited with World Bank assistance, is taking several steps to mitigate pollution caused by coal mining and resettle and rehabilitate people displaced by the mining activity and undertake community development projects;

(b) if so, the details of the projects envisaged and mines selected to be covered under these projects;

(c) the details of the financial assistance sought from the World Bank for various coal mining prospects, project-wise; and

(d) the reaction of World Bank thereto and the present status of each of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (d). While seeking loan for Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) from the World Bank, Coal India agreed to implement a project for mitigation of environmental and social impacts of coal mining. This project called "Environmental and Social Mitigation Project". (ESMP) is designed to strengthen Coal India's capability and to reinforce actions for mitigating environmental and social impacts in 25 mines initially identified for CSRP.

The World Bank has approved an IDA Credit of 43.3 Million SDR (US \$ 63 million) for "Coal Sector Environmental and Social Mitigation Project" of Coal India Ltd. The project inter-alia envisages carrying out Environment Action Plans, Rehabilitation Action Plans etc. at 25 identified coal projects of CIL. The details of the projects under the ESMP and the IDA Credit for these are given below

Name of the project	IDA Credit US \$ Million
1	2
CCL	
1. K.D. Hesalong OCP	1.70
2. Parej East OCP	1.49
3. Rajrappa OCP	1.20
WCL	
4. Durgapur OCP	0.74
5. Niljai OCP	0.84
6. Padampur OCP	0.74
7. Sasti OCP	0.84
8. Umrer OCP	0.75
SECL	
9. Bistrampur OCP	2.80
10. Dhanpuri OCP	1.30
11. Dipka OCP	2.85

1	2
12. Kusmunda OCP	1.70
13. Manikpur OCP	0.90
14. Gevra OCP	0.80
NCL	
15. Nigahi OCP	2.50
16. Dudhichua OCP	2.73
17. Bina OCP	1.90
18. Jayant OCP	3.00
19. Jhingurda OCP	1.70
MCL	
20. Lakhanpur OCP	1.70
21. Samleswari OCP	1.70
22. Ananta OCP	0.90
23. Bharatpur OCP	1.50
24. Belpahar OCP	1.75
25. Jagannath OCP	1.40
Corporate	23.57
Total	63.00

Duty on Import of Newsprint

525. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have levied duty on the import of newsprint;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether this import duty has been levied as a post-budget measure;

(c) the reasons for imposition of the duty and its impact on the newspaper industry particularly the medium, vernacular and small newspaper;

(d) whether the newspaper industry has made any representation to the Government about it; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. With effect from 29th October, 1996, the Government have imposed an import duty of 10% ad valorem on newsprint.

(c) Since 1995, there has been an appreciable fall in the price of imported newsprint. The price of imported newsprint which was in the range of US \$ 1000 per tonne in May 1995, was ruling at around US \$ 450-500 per tonne in September-October, 1996. The landed cost of imported newsprint is appreciably lower than the cost of production of indigenous thus making indigenous units unviable. Keeping these factors in

view, a nominal import duty of 10% has been imposed on imported newsprint. Considering the fact that the price of imported newsprint has fallen by about 50%, the imposition of 10% import duty is not likely to cause undue hardship to the medium, vernacular and small newspapers.

(d) and (e). The newspaper industry has represented against the above levy of customs duty. The Government is keeping a close watch on the international price of newsprint and when the international prices rise, the Government will review the present levy.

Gaslitand Disaster

526. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Court of Enquiry was conducted to enquire the causes of accident in Gaslitand of BCCL mine on 27.9.1995;

(b) if so, whether it has submitted the report; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) Under Section 24 of the Mines Act, 1952, the Government had constituted a Court of Inquiry headed by Justice (retd.) S.K. Mukherjee of Patna High Court to inquire into the causes and circumstances attending the accident which occurred at Gaslitand and other mines of Bharat Coking Coal Limited on 26/27.9.95. The Court of Inquiry is yet to submit its report.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

Vigilance Machinery in PSUs

527. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the vigilance machinery in the Public Sector Undertakings has been strengthened;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether officials of this machinery have been granted some special facilities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (e). Strengthening Vigilance Machinery in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) is a continuous process. Besides conferring the status equivalent to that of a functional director to the Executive Director (Vigilance)/Chief Vigilance Officers of the level of Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India and above in PSUs, the Govt. has recently empowered them to exercise such administrative and financial powers as are essential for the efficient functioning of Vigilance Machinery subject to the condition that financial powers are

exercised within the allotted budget to the vigilance unit and in accordance with the financial discipline and accountability at par with other functional directors. They will also be entitled to such accommodation which is available to other functional directors in PSUs.

Coal Stocks

528. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the system adopted by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries in estimation of stocks is faulty and misleading as various Committees have adversely commented on the system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the authorities that the stocks estimated by subsidiaries of Coal India Limited were highly inflated and manipulated;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the responsibility fixed by the Government against those who have manipulated the stock position, subsidiaries-wise; and

(e) the effective measures taken/proposed to be taken for correct assessment of stocks in various subsidiaries particularly in Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Eastern and Western Coalfields Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The system adopted by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries in estimation of stocks is not faulty. However, in every system, there is always a scope for further improvement as has been suggested by some Committees.

(b) Some of the major system improvement suggestions relate to the separation of the functions of the Manager of each colliery and the Agent, additional test measurements over the annual measurement, restriction of stock in each colliery to maximum one month's production, computerisation of colliery operations, installation of road weighbridges etc.

(c) and (d). It has come to the notice of the authorities that in some collieries in some collieries in some subsidiaries the production has been over reported. Disciplinary action against persons responsible for over reporting and resultant stock shortages has been initiated. 56 cases in Eastern Coalfields Limited, 51 in Bharat Coking Coal Limited, 49 in Central Coalfields Limited and 8 in Western Coalfields Limited have been started.

(e) Measures taken to improve the system have been indicated in answer to part (b) of the Question

[Translation]

Capital Market

529. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government/SEBI have received